of Coal to coal companies for road development from out of the fund realised under the provisions of the Coal Mines (Conservation & Development) Act, 1974.

(b) The total stretch of roads developmed by coal companies in Bihar during the last three years was 112.60 Kms.

(c) CIL have informed that the following amounts have been tentatively earmarked for road development in collieries located in Bihar during the Eighth Plan period:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Company	Amount earmarked
Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL)	373.00
Bharat Coking Coalfields Ltd. (BCCL) . .	1480.00
Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL)	5988.00

Revision of rate of royalty on coal

7345. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to revise the rate of royalty on coal;

(b) whether the coal producing states have been making this demand since long;

(c) if so, the steps taken to revise the rate of royalty on coal; and

(d) the details of the revision proposed to be made on different grades of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Under the provisions of Section 9 of Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 the rates of royalty on minerals can be enhanced only once in a period of three years. Since the last increase in royalty on coal was effected on 1-8-1991, the next increase can only be effected on or after 1-8-1994.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Govt. had appointed a study group to inter-alia examine the requests of the State Govts. for increases in coal royalty and make suitable recommendations.

(d) The details of revised rates of royalty applicable to different grades coal are notified in the official gazette Copies are also placed on the Tables of both Houses of the Parliament.

Investigation of shortages in B.C.C.L

7346. SHRI GOBINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a Committee to investigate the shortages in the Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report and if not why such inordinate delay in submitting the report;

(c) whether Government have accepted the findings of the Commitee;

(d) if so, the details of the top level executives management held responsible for such huge shortages to the extent of nearly six thousand crore Rupees; and

(e) what action Government propose to take against these guilty officers?